

+
Q.M.D.G. MARY HARMON

Feby 4, 1946.

Dear Father

I come to tell you of the death of Sister Mary Annunziata.

Dec 8th last she was lighting a vigil light and her clothing took fire from another vigil light close by. She was so badly burned that she died Dec 10th R.I.P.

We met some years ago, thru dear God The Holy Ghost and she was our true devoted friend.

As a result of her leading a very holy life and having to live with those who were not so attracted, even superiors, her life was a hidden martyrdom.

Her face was so badly burned they did not allow any one to view her remains. I am sure she flew straight to Heaven.

I had to move Jan'y 5th and in a few weeks will have to move again.

The next move D.S. will be permanent.

Have been suffering much since early December, especially at Christmas and for some time after.

Am asking prayers for a man (William is his first name) who wants a divorce from his most charming Catholic wife, mother of four of the most attractive children who have exquisite manners. He is living with a Protestant woman, most unattractive.

Everyone who meets his wife loves her. She of course absolutely refuses to grant the divorce.

Please tell my sons they are never forgotten in my sufferings and prayers.

Begging your holy Prayers and Blessing I am in The Wounded Sacred Heart of Jesus

Devotedly
Mary

1638 Rydalmount Road,
Cleveland Heights, 18,
Cleveland, Ohio.

J. M. J.

O. L. A.

Manteno, Illinois

Feb. 12, 1946

My dear Spiritual Father:

In God's Holy Name pray for me lest I die under the stress of difficulties with which I am oppressed. It is a battle with hell itself. I am so unnerved this morning I can scarcely type. Do pray for me, please.

Sister Aline is in dying condition and begs for prayers. I spent the afternoon with her yesterday at St. Mary's. Please pray for her.

Enclosed is \$10.00 - I would like a novena of Masses for the General Chapter -that we have a Good General and Provincial, that the light of God's wisdom may guide us in voting.

Union of prayer and sacrifice - Until later.

Sister Mary

J. M. J.

OUR LADY ACADEMY
MANTENO, ILLINOIS



PHONE 2351

Please destroy after
reading.

Feb. 21,
January 10, 1946

My dear Spiritual Father:

Looks like maybe you were going to get a letter in January. I don't think you did, did you? I don't remember writing but this paper is too good to waste...

I come to you laden anew with my difficulties - perhaps you will approve and perhaps not of what I did. I have one sister, S. Scholastica I mention the name since you know her, who has for the past 2½ years, been a source of constant trouble, because of her disobedience, scandal connected therewith and other things which I shall not go into.

Two weeks ago I wrote the Ecclesiastical Superior that he had not made a visitation since his nomination (to our convent) and these were conditions that made it advisable. (Writing backwards,

please excuse.) I really had all I
could take both physically and
morally, and this all had a very
bad effect on the younger sisters,
the problem was mine, and for
every effort I made for correction
a valley of fume and dejection and
spite followed. I never dreamed
religions could do the things they
do. I thought I was terrible
but I never dared or even thought
of such things as I have mit-
nessed and been the recipient of.

The individual in question has
been threatening my every move
with the Eccles Superior - and
the last time 2 weeks ago I
think will be the last time.

I told her things had gone
as far as they were going to go
and I meant it, that they
would have to be settled
once for all with Rev. Mather -
she answered they will be
settled with the Eccles Superior

first - I didn't tell her they would.
I was really angry and justifiably
so at her half-truths, etc. Before
God I considered again (as I had
with a previous outbreak) to invite
the Eccles. in, and I decided to do it
for these reasons.

1. She has been raising the Eccles. as a
"club" over my head since September
(by reason of misquotations which
have been made against him.)
She no longer feared the Provincial
Council because there has been
too much threatening and not
enough action and she thought
she had a "grip" in the Eccles.,
so why fear?

2. She threatened she could go to
see the Eccles. without my
permission - that Canon Law
gives her that right - and I
considered with her half-truths
and intellectual mind she
could easily work up a
pretty story which she does

readily, and that would do no good - I decided to act before she had a chance to do this.

3. In fairness to all I thought it better that the visitation be made so that he could hear not only my side and hers, but get the opinion and attitudes of the Community as a whole.

4. The better religious of the Community (and I dare include myself as desirous of being of the number) have taken as much as human endurance will permit. Even with all the grace of God we are still only poor weak creatures of God. As I told you before the beautiful spirit of the house is suffering shipwreck - the spirit of obedience is sorely wanting

the spirit of rebellion and disrespect for authority are rampant. It is a case of justice and holding to the religious spirit in accord with our Constitutions, and the dictates of Conscience of casting aside the general welfare, ceding to the caprice and self-will of the unscrupulously disobedient religious, and then salve your Conscience that you have done right.

Not Me! I am determined that religious obedience and the religious spirit are not to be sacrificed for selfishness, caprice or self-will - not so long as I have breath to breathe. It is a question of "grant me

what I ask, do as I say, take
my orders. -- If not, there
is fire and fume and
threats and "hell" for not
only the one in authority
but the good religious who
try to curb the culprit
and his sympathizing
adherents.

Before God I have determined
to adhere strictly to the
dictates of my Conscience
doing what before God seems
to me right - unless obedience
has determined otherwise,
and have the consequences
to God. It means relinquishing
the esteem of some (sometimes
even the virtuous ^{partly only} temporarily
until their eyes are opened - as
happened in the case of S. Morica.)

but peace of soul is a precious
heritage I shall not renounce for
any creature. men are not worth
it and God does not ask or
desire that. I have known what
it means to want peace of soul
after the long siege of scruples,
and uncertainty I experienced -
and I shall not do anything
volitional to lose what I so
value. I feel that I am a
hopeless failure, and my
acknowledgement of this was
asking for an early ~~visit~~ ^{visitation}
by Reverend Mather, and then
this last by the Ecclesiastical
Superior - I feel like a helpless
child capable of naught, and
I know much of my failure
is due to my want of a
spirit of prayer. Still, I know
difficulties are permitted by God

for the sanctification of our
immortal souls, and I know
though He seems far removed
from me, He must be very
near else I could not bear
to live on with the surging
tide of trouble rising higher
and higher. Since this
Eccles. visitation I feel much
of my uncertainty is gone
and I feel invincibly strong.
Blessed God to grant me the
courage to do His will regard-
less of the cost to self. I
feel God has permitted all
this because there must be
something done with these
rebellious characters, especially
the younger ones. I love
our Holy Rule - the beautiful
spirit of our Congregation as
inculcated in our Father's

Councils and our Constitution
and those in authority are
bound to uphold it. The General
Chapter is coming up in
summer - the new Provincial
will have something to do -

It is my belief it should be
Mother Rose Mary or Mother St. Eugene.

I believe Mother Rose M. could
handle the situation beautifully -
perhaps better than M. Eug - but
God knows best. Some suggest
Mother Viator - but ^{that is} ~~that is~~ my idea.

God will determine all that.
Storrow believes that we have
the one God wants us to have.

The Provincial Chapter is to
meet March 16th - S.M. Catherine
and I are going to vote as O.L.A.
delegates, for the ²American
delegates to France. Mother Eugene
will probably be one - she is my
choice - Mother Rose M. has been over

A. M. Mediated is suffering much, and has just had a
Mastoid operation. They say she is doing nicely now.

3 times already. I am told. Whoever
they are they need the great, great
special grace of God. I have no
fear personally, that God will
ask that of me - my state of soul
alone gives me a sort of surety
that I am safely out. But my
sufferings are being offered up for
those whom God will call upon
both Provincial and General.
Here things are in a sort of
crisis - Shall Christ and His grace
triumph or Satan? - Christ must
and will in the end - but Satan
for the moment works - as the
destroying angel - but he cannot
go farther than God allows. I
trust Him to come for us -
Beseech Him to be merciful for
the offenders of all of us, and to
make up to my sisters for what
is wanting in my faith, Union
prayer and sacrifice. Please try
to write if you can. Respectfully,
Pietie Moser

St. Patrick Academy
Mokena, Illinois

J. M. J.

February 26, 1946.

Rev. Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.,
Claretian Major Seminary,
Compton, California.

Rev. dear Father:

Enclosed kindly find a check with other offerings for Mass stipends which I would appreciate your taking care of for me. I would appreciate your saying the Mass for my intentions yourself; it would be possible.

Since it is now so long since I have heard from you, I scarcely know what to say. Your very long silence puzzles me. I was disappointed not to have heard from you during my illness; however I feel certain that you did pray for me.

The days of my enforced rest were really days of great grace for me - for He drew me closely to Himself during those long days and taught me many lessons which perhaps I would not have learned otherwise. I am finding it rather difficult now that I am back at work again to find time for everything, particularly since I am obliged to rest quite a little. Reverend Mother has already told me that I would not go to camp this summer.

I know that Mother St. Eugene has written to you asking for Masses for the coming Provincial Chapter to be held on March 16. I ask, too, that you implore the Holy Spirit with us that His Will and His alone be accomplished throughout. I saw Sister Mary Mediatrix at the hospital last Sunday. I don't know if you heard that she was operated on for a mastoid - she is getting along very nicely but she has suffered much.

I would appreciate any suggestions you may find fit to give me for Lent, Father. Your last letter has been the constant source of much meditation for me - and I have read and re-read it frequently. I completed the notes of last summer's retreat and sent them to you. I still have to transcribe the notes of the last two monthly retreats and I shall do this when I can. We are privileged in having a very saintly Jesuit for our monthly day of recollection.

Assuring you of my constant prayers for you and begging your blessing and a memento in your holy Sacrifice, I remain

Gratefully in Him

Sister Mary Dolores